



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Invited to Take a Peep at the Viaduct

SEATTLE – The media is invited to meet WSDOT crews at the viaduct's Columbia Street on-ramp at 9:30 a.m., tomorrow morning (Saturday, March 26). The media will have the opportunity to interview key WSDOT engineers and photograph the closed structure.

WSDOT maintenance crews will close the Alaskan Way Viaduct for its semiannual inspections, 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., Saturday, March 26 and 6 a.m. – 3 p.m., Sunday, March 27. The closure will extend the entire length of the viaduct from Spokane Street through the Battery Street Tunnel.

Easter travelers should plan more time to get where they are going Sunday morning. Travelers are encouraged to carpool and take transit. They should also be aware of traffic conditions on I-5, as congestion will be more likely with the viaduct closed. Live traffic conditions are available on the Web at www.wsdot.wa.gov. WSDOT workers will reopen the viaduct at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 27 to accommodate basketball game traffic.

In addition to structural inspections, WSDOT and the City of Seattle have also coordinated preservation work during this closure to lessen the likelihood of other closures during the year. This will include:

- Searching for and removing loose concrete on the viaduct
- Inspecting the highway sign structures
- Replacing old some highway signs
- Re-striping the roadway (weather permitting)
- Repairing potholes, expansion joints and bridge rails
- Inspecting lighting, fire prevention and ventilation systems in the Battery Street Tunnel
- Conducting preventative maintenance and wall washing in the Battery Street Tunnel
- Surveying work for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project

WSDOT will release the inspection results as they become available.

For more information, please go to www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct.

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